

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method performed by a computer for navigating user interface elements, the method comprising:

receiving, by a processor associated with the computer, a display of a graphical user interface of a computer program application, the graphical user interface including user interface elements comprising a hierarchical arrangement of parent graphical user interface elements and sibling graphical user interface elements;

searching the display, by the processor, to identify the parent graphical user interface elements and the sibling graphical user interface elements;

collecting from the display, by the processor, text labels for the identified parent and sibling graphical user interface elements;

grouping, by the processor, the user interface elements of a user interface of a computer program application hierarchically alphabetically into parent groups and sibling groups based on alphanumeric characters contained in the collected text labels for the user interface elements;

detecting, by the processor, a user navigation input comprising a sibling navigation input or and a user navigation input comprising a parent navigation input, the sibling navigation input comprising a sibling navigation key press plus a key press of a first alphanumeric character, the first alphanumeric character identifying a sibling group of user interface elements, and the parent navigation input comprising a parent

navigation key press plus a key press of a second alphanumeric character, the second alphanumeric character identifying a parent group of user interface elements;

if when the detected navigation input is the sibling navigation input:[[,]]

identifying, by the processor, a sibling group of user interface elements having a text label alphabetically corresponding to the key press of the first alphanumeric character; and

shifting, by the processor, input focus to a next the identified sibling group in the hierarchy; and

if when the detected navigation input is the parent navigation input:[[,]]

identifying, by the processor, a parent group of user interface having a text label alphabetically corresponding to the key press of the second alphanumeric character; and

shifting, by the processor, input focus to a the identified parent group in the hierarchy.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

creating, by the processor, one or more hierarchical tab chains to contain containing all user interface elements currently displayed by the application, the user interface elements in the one or more hierarchical tab chains being ordered alphabetically according to their associated text labels,

wherein a node in a tab chain hierarchy is a container comprising one or more user interface elements and the container comprises a tab chain that contains all the user interface elements in the container.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, ~~wherein~~ further comprising:
creating, by the processor, a new view ~~creates a view~~ container with displaying a
hierarchical tab chain that contains all the user interface elements for ~~the~~ a new view of
user interface elements, the user interface elements in the new view container being
displayed in alphabetic order based on their associated text labels; and
wherein the hierarchical tab chain for the new view is added to ~~the~~ an existing
hierarchical tab chain by adding a new node for the new view container in the existing
hierarchical tab chain.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a computer
program ~~product tangibly embodied in a computer-readable storage medium,~~
~~comprising instructions operable to cause a data processing apparatus that, when~~
executed by a computer, causes the computer to:
receive a display of a graphical user interface of a computer program application,
the graphical user interface including graphical user interface elements comprising a

hierarchical arrangement of parent graphical user interface elements and sibling

graphical user interface elements;

search the display to identify the parent graphical user interface elements and
the sibling graphical user interface elements;

collect from the display text labels for the identified parent and sibling graphical
user interface elements;

group the user interface elements of a user interface ~~of a computer program~~
~~application hierarchically~~ alphabetically into parent groups and sibling groups based on
alphanumeric characters contained in the collected text labels for the user interface
elements;

detect a user navigation input comprising a sibling navigation input ~~or~~ and a user
navigation input comprising a parent navigation input, the sibling navigation input
comprising a sibling navigation key press plus a key press of a first alphanumeric
character, the first alphanumeric character identifying a sibling group of user interface
elements, and the parent navigation input comprising a parent navigation key press plus
a key press of a second alphanumeric character, the second alphanumeric character
identifying a parent group of user interface elements;

if when the detected navigation input is the sibling navigation input[,,]:
identifying a sibling group of user interface elements having a text label
alphabetically corresponding to the key press of the first alphanumeric character; and
shifting input focus to ~~a next~~ the identified sibling group ~~in the hierarchy;~~

and

if when the detected navigation input is the parent navigation input[,,]:

identifying a parent group of user interface having a text label
alphabetically corresponding to the key press of the second alphanumeric character;
and
shifting input focus to a the identified parent group ~~in the hierarchy~~.

8. (Currently amended) The ~~product~~ computer-readable storage medium of claim 7, the executed program further ~~comprising instructions~~ causing the computer to:

create one or more hierarchical tab chains ~~to contain~~ containing all user interface elements currently displayed by the application, the user interface elements in the one or more hierarchical tab chains being ordered alphabetically according to their associated text labels,

wherein a node in a tab chain hierarchy is a container comprising one or more user interface elements and the container comprises a tab chain that contains all the user interface elements in the container.

9. (Currently amended) The ~~product~~ computer-readable storage medium of claim 8, ~~wherein~~ the executed program further causing the computer to:

~~creating~~ create a new view ~~for the application creates a view~~ container with displaying a hierarchical tab chain that contains all the user interface elements for the new view, the user interface elements in the new view container being displayed in alphabetic order according to their associated text labels; and

wherein the hierarchical tab chain for the new view is added to ~~the~~ an existing tab chain by adding a new node for the new view container in the existing hierarchical tab chain.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently amended) A system comprising:

means for receiving a display of a graphical user interface of a computer program application, the graphical user interface including user interface elements comprising a hierarchical arrangement of parent user interface elements and sibling user interface elements;

means for searching the display to identify the parent user interface elements and the sibling user interface elements;

means for collecting from the display text labels for the identified parent and sibling user interface elements;

means for grouping the user interface elements ~~of a user interface of a computer program application hierarchically~~ alphabetically into parent groups and sibling groups based on alphanumeric characters contained in the collected text labels for the user interface elements;

means for detecting a user navigation input comprising a sibling navigation input ~~or~~ and a user navigation input comprising a parent navigation input, a the sibling navigation input comprising a sibling navigation key press plus a key press of a first alphanumeric character, the first alphanumeric character identifying a sibling group of user interface elements, and a the parent navigation input comprising a parent navigation key press plus a key press of a second alphanumeric character, the second alphanumeric character identifying a parent group of user interface elements;

if means for, when the detected navigation input is the sibling navigation input[[.]]; identifying a sibling group of user interface elements having a text label alphabetically corresponding to the key press of the first alphanumeric character; and shifting input focus to a ~~next~~ the identified sibling group ~~in the hierarchy;~~ and

means for, when if the detected navigation input is the parent navigation input[[.]]; identifying a parent group of user interface elements having a text label alphabetically corresponding to the key press of the second alphanumeric character; and shifting input focus to a the identified parent group ~~in the hierarchy.~~

14. (Currently amended) The system of claim 13, further comprising:

means for creating one or more hierarchical tab chains ~~to contain~~ containing all user interface elements currently displayed by the application, the user interface elements in the one or more hierarchical tab chains being ordered alphabetically according to their associated text labels.

wherein a node in a tab chain hierarchy is a container comprising one or more user interface elements and the container comprises a tab chain that contains all the user interface elements in the container.

15. (Currently amended) The system of claim 14, ~~wherein~~ further comprising:
creating a new view ~~creates a view~~ container with displaying a hierarchical tab chain containing that contains all the user interface elements for the new view, the user interface elements in the new view container being displayed in alphabetic order based on their associated text labels; and

wherein the hierarchical tab chain for the new view is added to ~~the~~ an existing hierarchical tab chain by adding a new node for the new view container in the existing hierarchical tab chain.